

REGULAR SESSION RUSH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SEPTEMBER 10, 2012

The Rush County Board of Commissioners met in regular session, Monday, September 10, 2012 with Commissioners, Tom Barnes, Ken Masters, Deborah Adams, Auditor, and Leigh Morning, County Attorney in attendance. Commissioner Marvin Cole was absent.

Commissioner Ken Masters called the meeting to order. Tom Barnes made the motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of August 27, 2012 meeting as presented. Ken Masters seconded the motion. Motion carried.

CIRCUIT COURT

Circuit Court Judge David Northam informed the commissioners that the ceiling has collapse in the exhibit closet. The collapse resulted from the recent rain and roof leaking. Judge Northam reported that exhibits are now wet and are drying.

Judge Northam informed the commissioners that he was moving forward on the study to make the courts able to function in the proper manner. This will be a high priority and Judge Northam will pursue grants for funding.

Judge Northam did thank the commissioners for all that they have done over the past years.

AREA PLAN

Area Plan Director Kate Singleton received approval of the Independent Contractor Contract with Jack Harmon. Ken Masters made the motion to approve and sign the Independent Contractor Contract. Tom Barnes seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Singleton reported that her training will be completed by the end of the year.

ROAD CLOSING

Lorretta Solmon appeared before the commissioners to formally request the permanent closure of the road along 900 south in section 13 and 14 in Anderson Township.

Solmon informed the commissioners that she has spoken to highway superintendent Jerry Sitton regarding the request. Sitton did support the request.

Ken Masters made the motion to schedule a public hearing for Monday, October 9 at 9:30 am. Tom Barnes seconded the motion. Motion carried.

John Saxon asked the reason for the request. Jerry Sitton responded that the road is not being used and is more of an inconvenience to tax payers.

Jerry Sitton recommended to the commissioners the permanent closure of the road.

DEPARTMENT CHILD SERVICES

Heather Click, Regional Foster Care Specialist, Region 12 of DCS (Dept. Child Services), appeared before the commissioners to ask permission to place a “Heart Gallery” photo display in the courthouse lobby.

Click requested the showing of the “Heart Gallery” through Rush Fest that is scheduled for the end of September.

Ken Masters made the motion to allow the “Heart Gallery” to be displayed in the courthouse lobby through the end of Rush Fest, with the stipulation that no tape would be used on the flooring. Tom Barnes seconded the motion. Motion carried.

E.C.D.C.

E.C.D.C. Director Jim Finan reported that he attended the recent INTAT employee picnic. INTAT announced that it will be investing \$26 million that will result in forty-six (46) new employee jobs.

Conversation was held to another wind farm meeting to be held very soon. John Saxon asked if this meeting would be open to the public. County Attorney Leigh Morning responded No it is not open to the public.

Saxon spoke that in the past, the commissioners have made directives to the media. Saxon asked if they would again do this. Commissioner Tom Barnes responded by stating that the commissioners cannot control what the media presents.

SHERIFF

Sheriff Jeff Sherwood reported thirty-eight (38) inmates incarcerated in the Rush County jail.

HIGHWAY

Highway Superintendent Jerry Sitton submitted the August monthly report for the commissioners to review.

Sitton reported that the bridge inspection RFP’s (Request for Proposal) is being reviewed and he is currently waiting on the state to provide the DES # to move forward.

Sitton reported that USI did the previous bridge inspections. They prepared a five (5) year plan to assist with the budget planning. Sitton explained and stressed that if the county does not increase the Cum Bridge rate the commissioners will be forced to close bridges due to lack of funding.

Sitton reported that several employees had over time due to the recent thunder storms. The lightening from the storms hit the highway computers, internet, printers, copiers and TV. The department has a \$1,000.00 insurance deductible.

ADA (AMERICAN DISSABILITIES ACT)

Jerry Sitton questioned the county attorney if the conservation Gun-Club and the 4-H Horse Club would be required to be assessed for ADA. Sitton explained that there is a 99 year lease. Leigh Morning responded that the county does still own the property and in her opinion is still responsible for them.

Sitton stated that according to the gun club attorney the county has no authority over the property. Morning advised Sitton to not have any assessments done on the Conservation Club until she has had the opportunity to review and discuss with their attorney.

AUDITOR

Auditor Deborah Adams received approval of payroll for the pay period ending September 14, 2012 on a motion by Ken Masters. Tom Barnes seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Bi-weekly claims turned in September 4, 2012 were approved on a motion by Ken Masters. Tom Barnes seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Surety Bond in the amount of \$15,000.00 for Deputy Clerk Traci Chandler was approved on a motion by Ken Masters. Tom Barnes seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The ProLiance agreement was approved and signed on a motion by Ken Masters. Tom Barnes seconded the motion. Motion carried.

EMS

Auditor Deborah Adams submitted EMS run reports received from

- Carthage Vol. Fire Dept.
- Anderson Twp. Vol. Fire Dept.
- Raleigh Fire Dept.

RUSH MEMORIAL AMBULANCE CONTRACT

Ken Masters made the motion to approve and sign the Rush Memorial ambulance contract in the amount of \$325,000.00 Tom Barnes seconded the motion. Motion carried. The 2013 contract is for one (1) year.

Tom Barnes noted that he will take the contract to the county council budget hearings on Wednesday, September 12 and ask them to also approve and to sign.

WIND FARMS

Ken Masters made the motion to approve requesting and signing of the services from H.J. Umbaugh & Associates to provide financial advisory services related to the proposed wind farm development. Tom Barnes seconded the motion. Motion carried.

QUESTION OF VOTE PROCESS

John Saxon asked the commissioners what would happen if one of them would disagree in a vote where only two commissioners are present. County Attorney informed Saxon that there must be a 2/3 vote for a motion to pass.

Motion to adjourn was received from Ken Masters. Tom Barnes seconded the motion. Motion carried.

<u>/s/Tom Barnes</u>	<u>/s/Marvin Cole</u>	<u>/s/Ken Masters</u>
Tom Barnes, Chairman	Marvin Cole	Ken Masters

ATTEST:

/s/Deborah C. Adams
Deborah C. Adams, Auditor